10th August 1929]

Construction of a cotton spinning mill in the Coimbatore Jail.

* 314 Q.—Mr. M. NARAYANA RAO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Department of Industries prepared a plan for the construction of a cotton spinning mill in the Central Jail, Coimbatore;

(*b*) whether the Deputy Director of Industries examined the plan before forwarding it to the Executive Engineer;

(*c*) whether the Executive Engineer subsequently sent a complaint for furnishing him with a defective plan, and if so, what action was taken by the department;

(*d*) how many visits the present Deputy Director has paid to the Jail in connexion with this work;

(*e*) whether wrong wall boxes were purchased and fixed and then removed and replaced by new ones;

(*f*) whether a large number of manholes than were actually necessary, were purchased;

(*g*) whether cast-iron columns were first purchased and fixed and then removed to be replaced by a partition wall;

(*h*) whether there was delay in purchasing oil for running the engine;

(*i*) what is the amount of loss suffered by the Jail and whether any portion of this amount was recovered from the Deputy Director; and

(*j*) whether the hon. Minister will take any, and, if so, what action on the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) No complaint was received from the Executive Engineer.

(*d*) None.

(*e*) Wall boxes originally supplied had to be removed and replaced by new ones.

(*f*) Yes, this resulted from a clerical error in the final plan prepared.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) There seems to have been some delay in the initial stage of the trial run.

(*i*) As the supplying firms took back the surplus articles and gave credit for them, the only additional expenditure was that involved in the cost of labour employed in removing the original wall boxes and replacing them by new ones, which was negligible.

(*j*) As the Director of Industries has already issued instructions with a view to prevent the recurrence of such errors, the Government do not propose to take any further action.

Action taken on the proposed items of work in the Industries Department, for 1928–29.

* 315 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to place before the Council a statement showing how far the items of work proposed to be undertaken during the year 1928–29, as